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HOUSE BILL NO. 66

Offered January 11, 2006 Prefiled December 15, 2005

A BILL to amend and reenact § 63.2-2201 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the Virginia Caregivers Grant Program.

Patrons—Purkey, Athey, Byron, Callahan, Dudley, Gear, Gilbert, Jones, S.C., Landes, McQuigg, Morgan, Rapp, Rust and Wright

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 63.2-2201 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 63.2-2201. Caregivers Grant Program established.

A. From January 1, 2000, through December 31, 2010, any caregiver who provides care for a mentally or physically impaired relative shall be eligible to receive an annual caregivers grant in the amount of \$500; however, if the caregiver can demonstrate and provide appropriate documentation satisfactory to the Department that without such care the impaired relative would be domiciled in a nursing facility, then the annual grant shall be \$3,000. The grants under this chapter shall be paid from the Fund, as provided in this chapter, to the caregiver during the calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the care for a mentally or physically impaired relative was provided. The total amount of grants to be paid under this chapter for any year shall not exceed the amount appropriated by the General Assembly to the Fund for payment to caregivers for such year.

B. Only one grant shall be allowed annually for each mentally or physically impaired relative receiving care under the provisions of this section. Multiple caregivers providing care to the same mentally or physically impaired relative shall be eligible to share the \$500 grant as mutually agreed. However, only one caregiver may submit a grant application for the relative. A caregiver providing care to more than one eligible relative shall submit a separate grant application for each relative receiving

C. The mentally or physically impaired relative being cared for may live in the caregiver's home or in his own home but shall not be receiving Medicaid-reimbursed community long-term care services, other than on a temporary or periodic basis, or living in a nursing home or other assisted living facility where assistance with ADLs is already provided and the cost of such assistance is included in the monthly bill or rental fee.